

## ASK COUNCIL FOR MORE POLICEMEN

## Commissioners Declare That Present Force Is Not Adequate.

## GROWTH OF CITY DEMANDS INCREASES

**Common Council Approves Deed  
Transferring Bryan Park to  
City—Committee Instructed  
to Report Plan for Reliev-  
ing Congestion at  
City Jail.**

Twenty-five additional patrolmen were asked for by the Board of Police Commissioners in a communication presented to the Common Council last night, in which it was represented that Richmond is without adequate police protection. The paper was referred to the Finance Committee for consideration in connection with the budget for the year 1910.

Under the order of the Henrico Circuit Court for the annexation of outlying territory in 1906 provision was made for policing the new area with ten mounted men. Much of that area is now built up, requiring the assignment of a constantly increasing number of men and the continual enlargement of the size of the "beats."

**Many New Demands.**

Street traffic is represented as making new demands on the work of the department. Congested streets have

to be kept clear by the use of mounted men, and patrolmen have to be assigned constantly to guard pedestrians at busy corners.

Congestion about theatres and public places, and other measures for preserving the safety of the public, while they have accumulated with the growth of the city, make it necessary to the opinion of the Board of Police Commissioners that the force be augmented by twenty-five patrolmen. The present force consists of 125 men, made up as follows: One chief, three office employees, six detectives, two signal operators, two captains, six desk sergeants, eight street sergeants, seventy-one patrolmen, ten mounted men and sixteen bicycle officers.

On the roll-call, Mr. Umlauf offered a resolution for the smooth paving of Pine, Cherry, and other streets in Clarksville. This was included in the budget. Mr. Mills withheld his vote on the fixed rate, pending the adoption of the annual budget for 1910.

to be paved the smooth paving of Marshall Street from Twelfth to Thirty-fourth. Both requests went to the Finance Committee. Mr. Mill explained that since Franklin and Grace Streets are paved, with Capitol Street to Twelfth, that the connection by the proposed Marshall Street is due to Twelfth and the smooth paving of Marshall Street from Twelfth to Thirty-fourth, which has already been paved to Oakwood Avenue, would give a continuous driveway from one end of the city to the other.

**Mayor's Veto Not Sustained.**

Mayor Richardson submitted a veto message declining to approve the paving of Marshall Street from Twelfth to Thirty-fourth. The Finance Committee, in a vote of 10 to 4, sustained the veto.

Mayor stated in his veto message that the city had recently been called on to defend many suits for damages because of obstructions in the streets and in some instances had been forced to pay judgment. He quoted a decision of the Virginia Supreme Court which held in the case of the city of Norfolk that the Council had no authority to grant permission for the obstruction of a public highway to an individual. The Mayor held that the

Mr. Umlauf contended that it was a small thing to veto and refuse permission to erect a barber pole, and then to allow stores to erect show cases projecting three or four feet of the sidewalk, a matter he would cheerfully veto to clear Broad Street of obstructions back to the property line but that this was neither the time nor the place to begin.

Mr. Pollock, for the Street Committee, said that such permission has never been refused, and that innumerable showcases and sign permits have been given. He said he would cheerfully give an obstruction that was proposed in this instance. Mr. Mills said that it

The Mayor also vetoed for the same reason an ordinance granting a like permit to Alice D. Williams, trustee, to erect a barber sign at 734 East